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REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 15th December 1888.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Kasipore Nibási"	Kasipore, Burrusal ...	.....
2	"Ahammadí"	Tangail, Mymensingh.	.....
3	"Ave Maria"	Calcutta	.....
4	"Chandra Vilásh"	Berhampore	.....
5	"Divákar"	Calcutta	.....
6	"Gaura Duta"	Maldah	.....
7	"Grambásí"	Uluberia	.....
8	"Púrva Bangabásí"	Noakhally	.....
9	"Purva Darpan"	Chittagong	700	
10	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi"	Mahiganj, Rungpore	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
11	"Arya Darpan"	Calcutta	102	30th November 1888.
12	"Bangabásí"	Ditto	20,000	8th December 1888.
13	"Burdwán Sanjívaní"	Burdwan	302	4th ditto.
14	"Cháruvártá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	
15	"Chattal Gazette"	Chittagong	.....
16	"Dacca Prakásh"	Dacca	450	9th ditto.
17	"Dhumaketu"	Chandernagore	.....
18	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	825	7th ditto.
19	"Garib"	Dacca	.....
20	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Beauleah, Rajshahye	200	
21	"Jagatbásí"	Calcutta	.....
22	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Berhampore	508	
23	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto	.....
24	"Navavibhákar Sádhárání"	Calcutta	1,000	10th ditto.
25	"Prajá Bandhu"	Chandernagore	995	7th ditto.
26	"Pratikár"	Berhampore	600	
27	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh"	Kakiná, Rungpore	205	
28	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	500	5th ditto.
29	"Samaya"	Ditto	2,350	7th ditto.
30	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	4,000	8th ditto.
31	"Sansodhíní"	Chittagong	800	
32	"Santi"	Calcutta	.....
33	"Saráswat Patra"	Dacca	400	
34	"Som Prakásh"	Calcutta	1,000	10th ditto.
35	"Srimanta Saudagár"	Ditto	.....
36	"Sulabha Samáchár and Kusadaha" ...	Ditto	3,000	7th ditto.
37	"Surabhi and Patáká"	Ditto	700	6th ditto.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<i>Daily.</i>				
38	" Dainik and Samachár Chandriká "	Calcutta	7,000	11th and 12th December 1888.
39	" Samvád Prabhákar "	Ditto	200	7th to 12th ditto.
40	" Samvád Punachandrodaya "	Ditto	300	7th to 13th ditto.
41	" Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká "	Ditto	500	
<i>ENGLISH AND BENGALI.</i>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
42	" Dacca Gazette "	Dacca	.....	10th ditto.
<i>HINDI.</i>				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
43	" Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Sámachár Patriká."	Darjeeling	.....
44	" Kshatriya Pratiká "	Patna	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
45	" Aryávarta "	Calcutta	.....	1st and 8th November 1888.
46	" Behar Bandhu "	Bankipore	.....
47	" Bhárat Mitra "	Calcutta	1,500	29th ditto.
48	" Sár Sudhánidhi "	Ditto	500	3rd December 1888.
49	" Uchit Baktá "	Ditto	4,500	
50	" Hindi Samáchár "	Bhagulpore	1,000	
<i>PERSIAN.</i>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
51	" Jám-Jahán-numá "	Calcutta	250	7th ditto.
<i>URDU.</i>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
52	" Aftal Alum Arrah "	Arrah	.....
53	" Akhbar Tusdiq-i-Hind "	Calcutta	.....	8th ditto.
54	" Anis "	Patna	.....
55	" Gauhur "	Calcutta	196	11th ditto.
56	" Sharaf-ul-Akbar "	Behar	150	
57	" Al Punch "	Bankipore	.....	22nd, 29th October, 5th, 12th, and 26th November 1888.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
58	" Akhbar-i-darusaltanat "	Calcutta	340	24th, 27th Nov., and 1st and 4th Dec. 1888.
<i>Daily.</i>				
59	" Urdu Guide "	Calcutta	212	4th to 11th December 1888.
<i>URIYA.</i>				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
60	" Taraka and Subhavártá "	Cuttack	.....
61	" Pradíp "	Ditto	.....
62	" Samyabadi "	Ditto	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
63	" Utkal Dípiká "	Cuttack	200	
64	" Balasore Samvad Váhika "	Balasore	205	
65	" Uriya and Navasamvád "	Ditto	.....	3rd ditto.
<i>PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.</i>				
<i>BENGALI.</i>				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
66	" Silchar "	Silchar	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
67	" Paridarshak "	Silchar	450	



I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The Jungle Mehal States of Orissa
and Chota Nagpore.

THE SOM PRakash, of the 10th December, says that the condition of most of the Jungle Mehal States of Orissa and Chota Nagpore is extremely miserable. The Rajas of these States are mostly illiterate, and they have by their extravagant and injudicious style of living brought their States to the verge of ruin. In the face of these facts, Government ought to place no confidence in the reports of Commissioners describing these States to be in a flourishing condition, and to be in the possession of increasing revenue. And if it does not take steps to entrust the management of these States to proper hands, sheer misgovernment will some day compel it to annex them.

SOM PRAKASH,
Dec. 10th, 1888.

The proposal for the annexation of Sikkim.

2. The Dainik and Samáchár Chandriká, of the 12th December, blames Lord Dufferin for waging war against Sikkim, and His Lordship will incur greater blame if he is found to have given his sanction to the annexation of that State. The war against Sikkim was a most unrighteous one, and has been condemned from its commencement. Government vindicated its action in the Sikkim affair by saying that its object was to rescue the people of Sikkim from Tibetan oppression. But everybody knows that its real object was to open a new market for English traders. And this strengthens the suspicion that Government will not only annex Sikkim, but also carry war into Tibet.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Dec. 12th, 1888.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

Appointments in the Police Department.

3. A correspondent of the Bangabási, of the 8th December, complains that the names of candidates for appointment in the Police Department are registered in the office of the Inspector General of Police, but appointments are given only to those who have influential men to back them. Many candidates whose names were registered 4 or 5 years ago have not yet got any appointment, whilst persons whose names were registered long after, and who have succeeded in creating an interest in the office, have got appointments. The rules laid down by Government for the bestowal of appointments in the Police Department are systematically overlooked, and it is high time that Government should see that they are strictly obeyed.

BANGABASI,
Dec. 8th, 1888.

Many men holding only Entrance certificates are serving as writer-constables, whilst uneducated men with influential patrons have succeeded in securing Sub-Inspectorships. Government is, therefore, requested to make a careful inquiry into these cases of injustice and partiality, and to remove all irregularities arising from this source in the office of the Inspector-General of Police.

4. Another correspondent of the same paper says that there are six chowkidars at Sonda, a village near Bood-Bood in Burdwan, but not one of them keeps watch at night, and thefts consequently take place in the village. The shop-keepers of the village also keep short weights.

BANGABASI.

5. The Surabhi and Patáká, of the 6th December, has learnt that the Magistrate of Murshidabad intends to write to the Divisional Commissioner requesting him to withdraw the case against the persons arrested in connection with the Beldanga affray, and asks, will the worry and trouble which gentlemen in this instance have for nothing experienced at the hands of the

The Beldanga image-breaking case.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
Dec. 6th, 1888.

police remain unnoticed, and will the outrage which has been done to their religious belief go unpunished ?

(d)—*Education.*

BANGABÁSI,
Dec. 8th, 1888.

6. A correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 8th December, says that the condition of the Middle Vernacular School at Samantakhanda, a village in the Jehanabad sub-division of the Hughli district, is good. The time for the renewal of the Government grant in aid of the school expired in August last. And although several applications have been made to the authorities for the renewal of the grant, no reply has been yet received. If the grant in aid of the school is not soon sanctioned, the school will suffer.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 8th, 1888.

7. The *Sanjivani*, of the 8th December, cannot understand why the authorities of the Bethune School are going to modify the rule relating to the use of the school omnibus. It is now proposed that the girls who will not use the omnibus shall not be required to pay school fees, whilst those who will use it shall be required to pay the usual fee of Rs. 2. This change will not benefit poor girls reading in the school, for most girls live at a distance from the school, and they must, whether poor or not, be under the necessity of coming to the school in a conveyance, thereby making them liable to the payment of the school fee. Girls of rich families alone will benefit by the proposed change. The authorities of the school should reconsider the matter.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Dec. 10th, 1888.

The Text-book Committee for the Eastern Circle.

8. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 10th December, thinks that the Committee appointed to select text-books for the Eastern Circle should be vested with some real power in order that it may work independently. It is rumoured that of the members some who are of an independent disposition have already resigned and that some more will soon resign.

(f)—*Questions affecting the land.*

BHARAT MITRA,
Nov. 19th, 1888.

The memorial of the ryots of the Sujamutha pergannah in Midnapore.

9. The *Bhárat Mitra*, of the 19th November, requests the Lieutenant-Governor to consider favourably the memorial of the oppressed ryots of the Sujamutha pergannah belonging to the Burdwan Raj and situated within the Contai sub-division of the Midnapore district.

DAINIK & SAMÁCHÁR
CHANDRIKÁ,
Dec. 12th, 1888.

10. A correspondent of the *Dainik and Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 12th December, says that great mischief is being produced by the provision of the Tenancy Act of 1885 which requires that a tenant must deposit in court the rent which is claimed by his landlord, with costs, before his objection to the claim can be heard. The following case is given by way of illustration :—

Baboo Girish Chandra Bose, a taluqdar, instituted a suit for arrears of rent in respect of a holding in village Kabbari in Sahebgunge in Burdwan, which was held by 21 co-sharers. The taluqdar obtained an *ex parte* decree, the co-sharer, from whom arrear was due having failed to deposit the amount of the claim with costs.

The holding, whose real value is about Rs. 2,000, was consequently sold for Rs. 400. But one of the co-sharers deposited the amount within one month, and the sale was cancelled. If this man had been unable to make the deposit, it is certain that all the 19 or 20 men interested in the holding would have been ruined. This case points to the necessity of allowing co-sharers of holdings to register their respective shares separately. The Lieutenant-Governor is requested to alter the law accordingly.

(g)—*Railways and communications including canals and irrigation.*11. The *Education Gazette*, of the 7th December, has the following

The proposed abolition of intermediate class carriages. about the proposal to abolish railway carriages of the intermediate class :—

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Dec. 7th 1888.

In the first place, the *Pioneer* newspaper, which is in favour of the abolition, is mistaken in saying that intermediate class carriages are used by very few people. In the second place, if the use by a small number of people be a good ground for abolishing any class of railway carriages, surely the first and second class carriages should be abolished first of all, because the people using them are even fewer in number than the people who use intermediate class carriages.

Third class carriages being now almost exclusively used by low class people, respectable people of the middle class generally travel in intermediate class carriages. And if these carriages be abolished, it is certain that the respectable people of the middle class will be put to great inconvenience. The proposed abolition is not also likely to result in any profit or convenience to the railways themselves.

12. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 8th December, says Roads at Baghadari in Midnapore. that the roads at Baghadari, a village in the Midnapore Khas Mehals, were submerged by the floods. The water accumulating thereon did not subside for a long time for want of an outlet. The roads are still full of mud. And schoolboys cannot for this reason attend school. The District Board is requested to repair the roads leading to the school.

BANGABASI,
Dec. 8th, 1888.(h)—*General.*13. The *Sahachar*, of the 5th December, after praising Government for its supply of batteries of guns to the native chiefs of India, dwells on the impolicy of

The Native Army of India.

SAHACHAR,
Dec. 5th, 1888.

arming its own native soldiers with old and obsolete weapons such as the Snider rifle. While the armies of the European powers have been furnished with magazine rifles, while even the Arabs of Africa and the tribes of the Black Mountain have learnt to use Martini-Henry rifles, the impolicy of arming the native soldiers of India with obsolete weapons must be patent and should be strongly insisted upon. They are surely mistaken who say that when the occasion will arise Government will arm its native troops with the proper weapons. For it is impossible in the hurry and pressure of an emergency to train soldiers properly in the use of new arms. Napoleon III, in his universal distrust, kept the use of the mitrailleuse gun a secret from many of his artillery corps, and the result of the Franco-Prussian war showed how mistaken he was in so doing.

The necessity of opening a military school in India, of officering the native army with the descendants of the ancient Indian nobility and gentry, and of teaching the science of war to the officers of the native army, is then dwelt on. As the affectionate understanding which formerly existed between the sepoys and their English officers is now ceasing to exist, with the result that English officers cannot now inspire enthusiasm in the sepoy, and as education is infusing the sentiment of patriotism into the minds of many of the sepoys, the changes above indicated seem to be required for the maintenance of efficiency and martial ardour in the native army.

14. The *Education Gazette*, of the 7th December, says that the proposal to impose an import duty on gold, if carried into effect, will, by still more enhancing the price of that article, be productive of very serious consequences.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Dec. 7th, 1888.

SAMAYA,
Dec. 7th, 1888.

THE SAMAYA
FOR THE NATION

15. The *Samaya*, of the 7th December, thanks Lord Dufferin for his order on the subject of training the soldiers Reduction of army expenditure. of the native chiefs with a view of utilizing them for imperial purposes, and says that if this order is carried out, Government will get some 30,000 soldiers gratis.

It is, therefore, time for Government to consider whether the 30,000 men recently added to the British army in India should not be discharged. Such a reduction will set free two crores of rupees from the army expenditure, and enable Government to complete the works of public utility which have had to be stopped for want of funds. It is hoped that Lord Dufferin will advise Lord Lansdowne to this effect.

PRAJA BANDHU,
Dec. 7th, 1888.

16. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 7th December, says that though His Excellency Lord Dufferin had high literary attainments, bore a pure character, and was not a bad man, still he failed as an administrator of India. And the cause of his failure will be found in his anxiety to serve the interests of his countrymen rather than those of the people confided to his care. He made the Burmese and Sikkim wars, and strengthened the frontiers of India with the sole object of furthering the interests of his countrymen. It is true he appointed lots of Commissions on the plea of doing good to India. But as his heart was not in the matter, his Commissions came to nothing. His partiality for his own countrymen was so great that he left unpunished the acts of oppression which were committed by them on the people of India, and notably Sir Lepel Griffin's act of oppression against the Begum of Bhopal. He tried to frustrate the Congress movement by creating differences between Hindus and Mussulmans.

The nature of the farewell which His Excellency has received from the people of India has been no doubt disheartening to him. But there was no help for it. Even the editors of native newspapers cannot say one good word to him on the occasion of his departure. For if they do so, they will incur severe public displeasure. Heaven grant that His Excellency may acquit himself better if he is again entrusted with the administration of a country like India!

SULABH SAMACHAR
AND KUSHDAHA,
Dec. 7th, 1888.

17. The *Sulabh Samáchár and Kushdaha*, of the 7th December, contradicts the statements which appeared in A post office at Mangalgunge. the *Bangabásí* newspaper in connection with the establishment of a post-office at Mangalgunge (see Weekly Report on Native Papers for the week ending the 8th December 1888, paragraph 27). Mangalgunge has now become an important place. Besides a zemindari kutcherry, there is a Mission Press at Mangalgunge from which this paper is published. At present special messengers have to be employed to convey the newspaper and other papers and letters from this office to the Ashmali post-office, and to bring letters from the Ashmali post-office to this office and to the local zemindari kutcherry. The establishment of a post-office at Mangalgunge will remove a public inconvenience and prove profitable to Government. At any rate the post-office is expected to be self-supporting.

SANVAD PRABHAKAR,
Dec. 8th, 1888.

18. The *Samvád Prabhákar*, of the 8th December, gives a hearty welcome to Lord Lansdowne, and addresses An address to Lord Lansdowne. His Lordship as follows:—

" My Lord ! We want nothing more from you at present than that you should give effect in an impartial spirit to the Proclamation made by the Queen on the occasion of Her assumption of the Government of this country, in so far as it may be given effect to in our present condition. We ask no favour but bare justice. Your Lordship's predecessors governed India in the old style, which, however, does not suit the new order of things.

Your Lordship will experience no difficulty in the administration of India if you discard that style and govern the country with special reference to the signs of the time, and with an equal eye to the good of the Government, of the Anglo-Indians, and of the countless millions of India's own people. Your Lordship's administration is sure to be successful if you listen to the prayers of both the conquerors and the conquered."

19. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 8th December, says that though there is no outstill at Kamarhati in Burdwan, liquor can be had there all day and night.

20. The *Sanjivani*, of the 8th December, says that the recent order of Government prohibiting hunting and fishing in the reserved forests in the Angul and Khoorda sub-divisions in Orissa from 15th December to 1st June next without the special permission of the forester will cause serious hardship and inconvenience to the poor people of that sub-division, who are suffering from scarcity. The very rigour of the forest law has been a source of misery to poor people, and the order in question will increase the misery arising from this source. The Lieutenant-Governor is requested to reconsider this order.

21. The same paper says that there is great truth in what Mr. Edward Clifford has said on the leper question in the *Nineteenth Century*. Government has certainly failed in its duty in not having taken up the question earlier. Lepers are for the most part maintained by the generous public, and if hospitals are established for their accommodation, the public will certainly give the scheme ample pecuniary support. The municipalities ought to pay particular attention to the question, and Government ought to vest them with powers enabling them to do what is proper in this matter. Mr. Clifford's suggestion that a law should be passed providing for the segregation of lepers, is a good one and ought to be acted upon.

22. The same paper quotes the following from the Government Resolution on the Board's Report on the Administration of the Excise Department for the year 1887-88

—“The result of the special inquiry which was made by Mr. Westmacott under the orders of Government into the effect of the introduction of the outstill system into Hooghly and Howrah has shown that the extension of the system to this tract has had deplorable results, and that it would probably have been better to have accepted the recommendations of the Excise Commission for the closure of two of the five sunder distilleries which then existed, and to have relied on the three remaining distilleries to supply the wants of the locality. But the action then taken, recommended by the Board and confirmed by Government, was based on the best information and advice available. The result was not foreseen; and all the local officers were in favour of the experiment. With the light of the experience since acquired, the Lieutenant-Governor is, however, disposed to think that it is probably a sound principle that, in the metropolitan districts at least, outstills should not be substituted for distilleries, and it remains for the Board to consider whether, in the face of all the facts elicited by this special inquiry, it would not be wise even now to revert to the distillery system in these districts.”

It will appear from this that Sir Steuart Bayley has determined to abolish the outstill system in the Howrah and Hooghly districts, and that the labours of the Indian Association to get that system abolished in at least the metropolitan districts have not been in vain. But the writer is sorry to find the following in the same Resolution :—

“But the most valuable conclusion to be drawn from Mr. Westmacott's report is that to which the Lieutenant-Governor has already drawn attention

BANGABASI,
Dec. 8th, 1888.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 8th, 1888.

SANJIVANI.

SANJIVANI.

in the Government Resolution of the 13th October last, that if the outstill system is to be maintained, the regulation of the outturn is the main point to which all efforts must be directed. If this has to be given up, the system must be abandoned. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad, therefore, to notice the evidences which are furnished by the Board's Administration Report that the importance of this duty is fully recognised by the Board of Revenue. Under the Patna system—so called because it was first introduced into that district—the size and capacity of each still, and the number and capacity of the vats in which the yeast for distillation is prepared, are regulated by the local demand, and it is upon this demand that the upset fee is calculated. The difficulty of this process is obviously very great, but it ought not to be impossible, and the object aimed at is one which it is necessary to attain irrespectively of revenue considerations. The Patna system was extended in 1887-88 to ten other districts, and in the current year to seven more. In regard to the local demand in these districts, the Collectors have reported that they believe the statistics furnished by them to be correct and trustworthy for all practical purposes. It is also said that there was not much difficulty in limiting the capacities of stills and vats in conformity to the local demand. The abkars made no other complaint than that the restrictions entailed additional labour and expenses in distilling liquor; but this is so far satisfactory that it leads directly to the price of liquor being raised. The local officers are unanimously of opinion that the system has worked fairly well. This is a very encouraging report; and though the Lieutenant-Governor fears it is somewhat more sanguine than the circumstances altogether warrant, it indicates the determination of all officers concerned to give fair trial to the recommendations of the Excise Commission with which the Government has identified itself."

The Lieutenant-Governor adds—"But the success already attained shows that the difficulties (of limiting the capacities of stills and vats) are not insuperable, and the Lieutenant-Governor relies on the Board and all officers concerned to use their utmost efforts to correct deficiencies and remedy faults where they are found. It may be expected that Mr. Westmacott's further deputation under the orders of the Board for the supervision of next year's settlements, and the additional attention which district officers are now bestowing to the subject in connection with his report, will materially facilitate further improvement."

It appears that Government is desirous of raising the price of liquor by (1) raising the upset prices of outstills, (2) fixing a minimum price for the cheapest kind of liquor in each district. But Sir Steuart Bayley has declared that if it be impossible to restrict the outturn of outstills by limiting the capacities of stills and vats, it will be difficult to justify the continued retention of the outstill system. And Mr. Westmacott's inquiry has proved that it is impossible to limit the capacities of vats and stills. Why should the abkars object to the present system when it enables them to distil as much liquor as they like? No reliance can be placed on the Board's present report. It once reported that the outstill system was working well in the Hooghly and Howrah districts, but Mr. Westmacott found on actual inquiry that such was not the case. How can the Board's report be therefore trusted in regard to other districts? The increase of revenue from the outstills is alone sufficient to show that the system of limiting the capacities of vats and stills has failed to produce the desired effect, and that the consumption of liquor has increased. The writer thanks His Honour for expressing a desire to abolish outstills in particular places.

The awful disclosures made in the course of Mr. Westmacott's inquiry prove the necessity of a total abolition of the outstill system. According to His Honour's own admission, the outstill system should at any rate be abolished from the Howrah and Hooghly districts at the time of the next settlements.

If the Lieutenant-Governor really believes the official report that the outstill system is working well in other parts of the province, he should depute some competent officer to make inquiries similar to those held in the Howrah and Hooghly districts. If he does so, he will find that he has been mistaken in supposing that the outstill system is working satisfactorily in other places.

23. The *Navavibhākar Sádhárani*, of the 10th December, says that it

Lord Lansdowne and the difficulties of British rule in India.

will not specify any measures for the consideration of Lord Lansdowne, but only impress

upon His Lordship the expediency of following

a just policy, and point out to him two features of British rule from which harm is expected. One of these is that the officials keep themselves aloof from the people, and do not sympathise with them. The ruler who will succeed in drawing the official body close to the people, and inspiring in their minds benevolent sentiments for the latter, will do a service to the Empire which will be remembered for ever. But the sympathy which the official should feel for the people should not be sympathy displayed by such delusive words as Lord Dufferin delighted to use. Sympathy of that kind will do positive harm. The second feature consists in the ill-feeling which is entertained by the Anglo-Indians for the natives, and the ill-feeling between Hindus and Mussulmans, which is of recent origin, and which is the work of the officials themselves. Whatever credit may be allowed to Lord Dufferin for diminishing the violence of the ill-feeling which raged so high in the time of Lord Ripon, there can be no doubt that His Lordship has himself created the present ill-feeling between Hindus and Mussulmans by patting the latter patronisingly on the back. A keen-sighted statesman like Lord Lansdowne cannot fail to perceive that such ill-feeling cannot exist without causing mischief. If the Hindus and Mussulmans ever come to blows in consequence of this dividing policy, Government will certainly part them and make them desist. But there is no certainty that it will not itself receive a few blows from both the parties in attempting to pacify them. Lord Lansdowne will do a great service to India and remove a source of future danger to England, if he can put an end to this ill-feeling between the Hindus and the Mussulmans.

24. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 10th December, makes the following

Lord Dufferin's Administration.

observations on Lord Dufferin's administration :—Lord Dufferin, on his arrival at

Bombay, declared that he would foster the system of Local Self-Government inaugurated by his illustrious predecessor Lord Ripon. But His Lordship has done nothing in that direction. He has, on the contrary, given his assent to the obnoxious Calcutta Municipal Act, and vetoed the proposal of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to extend the right of election to mofussil municipalities, and reduce the number of nominated Commissioners in these municipalities. His Lordship has not carried out a single recommendation of the Education Commission. The Finance Committee has cost Government a lot of money, but no retrenchment worthy the name has been effected. The Public Service Commission has yet done no good to the natives, and very little is expected from it. Lord Dufferin has drained the resources of the country in wasteful and unprofitable wars. He has exhausted the imperial treasury by annexing Burma and by waging the Sikkim and Black Mountain wars. He has oppressed the weak. He has, in all his acts, been guided by the principle, might is right. He might have averted unnecessary bloodshed, loss of life and waste of money, if he had shown some patience and moderation. On the occasion of the Jubilee, Lord Dufferin held out to the people of this country the hope that they would get reconstituted Legislative Councils. But he has done nothing in this way. And he has declared in his last speech that the time

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
SADHARANI,

Dec. 10th, 1888.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Dec. 10th, 1888.

has not come for introducing the elective element into Indian Legislative Councils. On the eve of his departure, Lord Dufferin has given vent to his spleen against the educated natives. Lord Dufferin is blamed for creating a gulf between the two important sections of the people, the Hindus and the Mahomedans.

GAUHAR,
Dec. 11th, 1888.

25. The *Gauhar*, of the 11th December, suggests the following modifications in the existing rules of the Postal Department:—

- (1) Insured parcels are now packed and sealed at the house of the sender, who declares at the post office the value of the article to be insured. But cases have occurred in which the certified contents of insured parcels have not reached the addressees, and the senders have been taxed with having made false declarations. It would therefore be better if all insured parcels are henceforward required to be packed and sealed in the presence of the Postmaster. If this is done, the Postal Department will not be able to shirk its responsibility.
- (2) All value-payable articles which addressees refuse to accept are now returned to the sender after detention for months in the delivery office. The period of detention should be reduced to one week, and detention should be made at the office of destination.
- (3) There should be two clerks in the larger post offices for receiving money-orders and registered letters. On account of the absence of such an arrangement, many of those who go to the Burrabazar Post Office and other big post offices in Calcutta to have letters registered or make money-orders, have to come away disappointed.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Dec. 4th, 1888.

26. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 4th December, referring to the proposal to appoint Mr. N. N. Ghose, editor of the *Indian Nation*, as a member of the Bengal Council, says that, though there are other candidates equally eligible for the membership, still it does not appear that Mr. Ghose's nomination to the Council will be particularly offensive to the people of the country.

**NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,**
Dec. 10th, 1888.

Mr. N. N. Ghose as a member of the Bengal Council.

27. The *Navavibhákar Sádháraní*, of the 10th December, says that by appointing Dr. Rashbihari Ghose as a member of the Bengal Council, Government has appointed a really able man. Dr. Ghose has received high academical honours, and has secured a very extensive practice in the Calcutta High Court by dint of ability. His Tagore lectures on the law of mortgage have extorted praise from friend and foe alike. He also speaks and writes English well, and possesses considerable debating power. He is also known for his courage and independence. Thus he is every way fit for the office to which he has been appointed.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 6th, 1888.

28. The *Sanjivani*, of the 8th December, says that one lakh of rupees is spent every year in constructing and repairing the buildings occupied by the Resident at Kashmere and the officers and men serving under him, whilst the Maharajah's own palace, the school and the post office are falling into disrepair on account of want of funds. And the wonder is

that the Residency houses are not only constructed and repaired, but also furnished at the Maharajah's expense. Will Government take no notice of the matter?

29. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 11th December, is glad at the appointment of Munshi Imtaz Ali as Prime Minister of the Bhopal State in place of Colonel Ward.

Munshi Imtaz Ali as Prime Minister of Bhopal.
A Mahomedan Prime Minister will be able to manage the affairs of that State better than a Hindu or a Christian Prime Minister.

URDU GUIDE,
Dec. 11th, 1888.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

30. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 8th December, says that the condition of the paddy crop at Amguri in Goalpara, Assam, has become very deplorable on account of want of rain.

Prospects of the crops at Amguri in Goalpara, Assam.
The condition of the people of Dorokishnagar khas mehal in Midnapore.

BANGABASI,
Dec. 8th, 1888.

31. A correspondent of the same paper says that the destruction of the paddy crop by excessive rainfall has made the condition of the people of Dorokrishnagar khas mehal in Midnapore very miserable. They are already suffering from scarcity. People had expected that Government would remit this year's rent as well as make advances to the cultivators. And they have therefore learnt with pain and surprise that the Collector of Midnapore has ordered the sub-manager of the khas mehal to collect all arrear rents by the certificate process. Will not Government take pity on the poor people of the pergannah?

BANGABASI.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

32. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 4th December, referring to the subject of the frequency with which famine in recent times is occurring in this country

Prevention of famine.
makes the following observations:—

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Dec. 4th, 1888.

The practice of storing grain in times of plenty enabled agriculturists in former times to tide over bad seasons without difficulty. And though the earnings of a cultivator in past times were smaller than those of the modern cultivator, still, as he lived a thrifty life, he could lay by money and generally pass his days in ease and comfort. But it is not so now. The modern cultivator has no stock of grain to fall back upon in times of distress, and his adoption of an expensive style of living, and fondness for articles of luxury, compel him to sell all his superfluous produce for ready money. His wants, in fact, have increased so much that, notwithstanding a comparatively large earning, he is perpetually in want of money, and a failure of the crops even for one year is sufficient to reduce him to distress and destitution.

The question now is, how is this state of things to be corrected? Formerly a timely stoppage of the exportation of grain used to set matters right in times of distress, but in these days of free trade such a course is not to be thought of. As failure of the crops from insufficient rainfall is the principal cause of distress in these days, it behoves Government, in view of the frequency of famine and scarcity in the country to keep up an abundant supply of water all the year round for agricultural purposes by excavating new tanks and re-excavating old ones. According to a correspondent of this paper, the road cess fund ought to be utilised for this purpose. But as the road cess is collected for the purpose of constructing roads, its application to a different purpose is certainly not desirable. Government, and Government alone, ought therefore to supply all money for digging new tanks and re-excavating old ones. It already spends money from its own coffers in the work of famine relief, and the money which may be required

for the execution of works calculated to prevent famine should therefore also come from its coffers.

SAHACHAR,
Dec. 5th, 1888.

33. The *Sahachar*, of the 5th December, does not think that the extension of the English Factory Law to The English Factory Law in India. India will do her any harm. For if the hours of work in the factories are reduced, reduction of wages will follow as a matter of course. Let Manchester pay the import duties again. And if Government imposes a duty on the cloth exported from this country, India will suffer no loss. If, however, Government is not allowed to revive the import duties on Manchester goods, then it should oppose by every means in its power the proposal of Manchester to reduce the hours of work in Indian manufactories.

SAHACHAR.

34. The same paper has the following on Lord Dufferin's speech at St. Andrew's dinner:—Lord Dufferin should not have made this speech, in the course of which he in some measure travelled beyond his province. The country ought nevertheless to take note of what he said. For it is not desirable that Government and the people should be working away at cross purposes. His Excellency's statement regarding the existence in India of many nationalities, languages and interests is indisputable. And in this state of things, who shall say that the powers of Government ought to be curtailed? But where did His Excellency learn that the Congressists want to establish a democracy in India? A reference to the list of the delegates to the Congress should have satisfied His Excellency that it is only the men of note and respectability in the country who support the Congress movement. And what after all are the demands of the Congress? The existing law requires that at least one-third of the members of the Legislative Councils in this country should be non-officials. And the Congressists simply want to increase the proportion to one-half. If Government cannot concede this demand, why, the country will be satisfied with only two-fifths. The gist of the Congress's contention on this point is that, instead of selecting, as at present, incompetent men who serve no other purpose than that of making up the regulation number of non-official members, Government should appoint able and competent men selected by the people themselves. And will even this concession be harmful? Again the country desires the restoration of that right of interpellation in the Councils which existed during the administration of Lord Dalhousie, and which was taken away by Lord Canning because Sir Barnes Peacock used it in a manner which was not quite agreeable to Government. And is the desire wrong or culpable? Lord Dufferin says that the number of educated men in this country is very small. But is the number of such men very large in England? And does His Lordship mean to say that a representative form of government cannot be established in the country until three-fourths of its people have received high education? How many men of learning were there amongst those who obtained the Magna Charta, which Englishmen value so much? Is it not a fact that the barons of those days did not even know how to read and write, or even to sign their names? Many of the Rajas and Maharajas who have been appointed as members of the Viceregal Council have been men ignorant of English. But who shall say that they voted on the many important questions placed before them without understanding them?

Everybody admits that the English system of representation is at present unsuited to this country, and that years must elapse before it can be established here.

There can be no harm in admitting that His Excellency is right in saying that no other country in the world possesses such an excellent body of officials as India does. That these officials try to do good to the people

confided to their care to the best of their ability may also be admitted. But there is also no gainsaying that the work of the administration has of late years undergone such enormous increase that in spite of their honesty and devotion the officials are now being betrayed into the commission of errors and mistakes which they could have avoided if they had associated the people with them in their onerous work. Is, then, the demand of the people to be associated with these officials in the government of the country an unjust demand after all? His Excellency himself admits that the Congressists can, if they like, do much good work within social and municipal lines, because they are well acquainted with the condition of the country. But if they can do good work in connection with the municipal administration of the country, why should they be unable to do equally good work in connection with its revenue administration? By attributing to the Congressists as a body the sentiments expressed in Mr. Hume's letters to the *Pioneer*, Lord Dufferin has done injustice to them. It is a fact that the President of the Bengal Branch of the Congress Committee refused to circulate the pamphlet regarding which so much has been said and written. And the Governor-General of a great Empire ought not at any rate to have made so much fuss about foolish statements made in a common-place pamphlet.

It is to be regretted that Lord Dufferin has advised the Congressists to agitate social questions. It is an advice which the Congressists are not prepared to accept. It is true that political agitation alone cannot do much good. But who told His Excellency that social questions are being neglected by the people? No, the people *are* occupied with the question of social reform. But what has existed for thousands of years cannot be removed or reformed in a day.

It cannot be said, however, that His Excellency's speech has displeased the public in this country, though, of course, they cannot be expected to agree with him on all points. And the public will certainly be glad to hear from His Excellency himself that he has already sent to England favourable recommendations in matters in which they are greatly interested.

Now that the Congressists have learnt the views of the Viceroy of India on the subject of the movement inaugurated by them, they will do well to proceed with caution. And Government should bear in mind that the Congress has no other object than to aid it in its work of administration. The existence of a political body like the Congress is possible only under the British Government, and the Indian who would wish to curtail the powers of such a Government must be an enemy of his country.

35. The same paper refers to Lord Lansdowne's answer to the address presented to him by the Bombay Municipality, Lord Lansdowne's utterances at * and says that His Excellency has made a good beginning, and that the whole country is

willing to aid him in the work of administration. May Heaven fulfil the wishes of His Excellency and the people of the country.

36. The *Surabhi and Patáká*, of the 6th December, says that it has all along been of opinion that it was Lord Dufferin who caused the present difference between the Hindu and the Mahomedan communities, and it has found a plain corroboration of this view in some of His Lordship's own words.

In describing India in the course of his speech at St. Andrew's Dinner, His Excellency was unconsciously betrayed into making the following statement:—"Perhaps the most patent peculiarity of our Indian cosmos is its division into two mighty political communities, the Hindus numbering 190 millions, and the Mahomedans a nation of 50 millions."

SAHACHAR,
Dec. 5th, 1888.

SURABHI & PATAKÁ,
Dec. 6th, 1888.

The Hindus and the Mahomedans are no doubt racially distinct, but that they are also politically distinct is a statement which has been for the first time made by His Excellency Lord Dufferin.

SURABHI & PATAKA.

Lord Dufferin's speech at St. Andrew's Dinner.

37. Referring to Lord Dufferin's speech at St. Andrew's Dinner, the same paper observes as follows:—

"It is no wonder that the educated classes of this country should by their severe criticism of Lord Dufferin's administrative measures have incurred His Excellency's special displeasure. It was for this reason that, before leaving India for good, His Excellency was looking for an opportunity of revenging himself upon the educated classes. And he did find an opportunity at the last St. Andrew's Dinner. His speech at that dinner is conceived in a spirit of bitter hostility towards the educated classes and the Congress movement which the educated classes have inaugurated. Indeed, so bitter is that spirit of hostility that not all the resources of his splendid oratory could enable His Excellency to hide it. His speech consists of two parts, one of which is devoted to extolling his own administration, and the other to abusing educated Indians and the Congress movement. If His Excellency can derive any real satisfaction from a boastful enumeration by himself of his own good qualities, and from himself characterising his own administration as a faultless one, by all means let him have that cheap pleasure. But the future historian of India, it is certain, will not readily accept his own verdict, and will condemn his administration as one of a very dark description. If depriving the Burmese of their independence with the view of finding a new market for British goods, if kindling the flames of war for nothing in Tibet and sacrificing innumerable lives and large sums of money in those flames, and if making the poor Indian's mouthful of rice uneatable by robbing it of its customary pinch of salt, be acts worthy of a Governor-General of India, then it must be admitted that His Excellency has done his work exceedingly well. If, however, it be dacoity to annex other people's country, foolishness to unnecessarily sacrifice men and money, and oppression to unnecessarily increase the burdens of a people, then it will be for the future historian to say that Lord Dufferin has been guilty of very grave crimes.

His Excellency has repeated Sir Auckland Colvin's objections against the Congress movement. But the manner in which he has done so is the very reverse of Sir Auckland Colvin's. For the coolness and courtesy which characterise the utterances of the latter are conspicuously wanting in the utterances of the former. Unlike Sir Auckland, His Excellency is grossly misinformed about the Congress and the educated classes. His charge against the latter, that they want to establish a democracy in India, to bring the English executive under their control, and to control the revenue of the Empire and so forth, is absolutely without any foundation. His further charge against them that they are not for proceeding slowly, and are for obtaining things by leaps and bounds, is also groundless. His Excellency has in short grossly misunderstood the aims and objects of the Congress and of the educated classes. By attacking the latter, His Excellency has done most mischief to himself, for that attack is a sad exhibition of mental weakness and want of self-control.

SAMAYA,
Dec. 7th, 1888.

The Anglo-Indians and the Mahomedan community.

38. The *Samaya*, of the 7th December, says that the Mahomedans keep away from the Congress movement simply because they mistake the selfish counsels of Anglo-Indian writers like the editors of the

Pioneer and the *Englishman* for disinterested friendly advice. That these

writers have not the welfare of the Mahomedan community at heart will appear from the fact that when the Hindu papers took up the cause of the Begum of Bhopal against Sir Lepel Griffin, the *Pioneer* and the *Englishman* undertook to whitewash him, justifying his acts, which were even more insulting to the dignity of a Queen than those for which Queen Boadicea raised the standard of revolt against the Roman power.

These Anglo-Indian writers are trying to dissuade the Mussalmans from joining the Congress, and thereby to create ill-feeling between them and the Hindus simply because they know that a union of the two communities will prove disadvantageous to the community whose advocates they are.

39. The same paper says that the steamer *Baitarani*, with all its living freight, has sunk in the sea, and about 200

The loss of the Baitarani.

corpses of natives have been found floating on

the waves. According to the *Times of India*, if these 200 corpses had been corpses of Europeans, quite a tempest of anger would have been raised by the Anglo-Indian community in India. But the corpses were corpses of natives, and so not the faintest sound or the feeblest word has been heard in the matter. If the editors of all Anglo-Indian newspapers had been as outspoken as the editor of the *Times of India*, the people of India would have had no cause for complaint.

40. The same paper has the following on Lord Dufferin's speech at St. Andrew's Dinner:—In his speech at St.

Lord Dufferin's speech at St. Andrew's Dinner.

attack on the Congress movement by flinging

a sarcasm at the promoters of that movement. He said that the Congress men were intelligent, loyal, patriotic, well-intentioned and so forth, but the manner in which he criticised their doings clearly showed that what he really meant to say was that they were the very reverse of intelligent, loyal, patriotic and well-intentioned. His Lordship's statement that the Congressists want to establish a democratic form of government in India, that they want to keep the entire revenue of the Empire in their hands, and so to bring the English Executive under their control, and that they want to form a native militia for the purpose of reducing the English army by half, is simply astounding for its inaccuracy and absolute disagreement with the fact. His Excellency said that he had come across most of the native politicians of note, and not one of them, capable of understanding the real political relation existing between England and India, seemed to countenance the political programme of the Congressists. In so saying, His Excellency clearly drew on his own imagination. For does not His Excellency know that Sir T. Madhava Rao and Dewan Raghu Nath Bahadur, two of the most distinguished native statesmen of India, are friends of the Congress?

According to His Excellency, the Congress is the outcome of English education. But, as a matter of fact, the ranks of the congressists comprise many who are ignorant of English. Again, according to His Excellency, thirty years is too short a term for a nation to qualify itself for self-government, and that what took the people of England centuries to acquire cannot be obtained by the Indian people within so short a time. Clearly His Excellency has erred in comparing England and India in this respect. For it is absurd to conclude that because half-civilised England took centuries to get a thing, India, which has been enlightened by English education, must take an equally long time to obtain things of far less importance.

41. The *Praja Bandhu*, of the 7th Decem-

Lord Dufferin's speech.

ber, has the following on Lord Dufferin's

speech at St. Andrew's Dinner:—

The Editor has read the speech with sorrow. His Excellency's unpopularity has been due to his own acts, and he should not therefore have

SAMAYA,
Dec. 7th, 1888.

SAMAYA

PRAJA BANDHU.
Dec. 7th, 1888.

made such a speech. As one effect of this speech, people will be constrained to say hard things of him, even though he be on the point of leaving the country for good.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 8th, 1888.

42. The *Sanjivani*, of the 8th December, takes exception to the following remarks of Lord Dufferin in his speech at St. Andrew's Dinner:—

"And now, gentlemen, some intelligent, loyal, patriotic, and well-meaning men are desirous of taking, I will not say a further step in advance, but a very big jump into the unknown—by the application to India of democratic methods of government, and the adoption of the Parliamentary system which England herself has only reached by slow degrees and through the discipline of many centuries of preparation. The idea authoritatively suggested, as I understand, is the creation of a representative body or bodies in which the official element shall be in a minority, who shall have what is called the power of the purse, and who, through this instrumentality, shall be able to bring the British executive into subjection to their will. The organization of battalions of native militia and volunteers for the internal and external defence of the country is the next arrangement suggested, and the first practical result to be obtained would be the reduction of the British Army to one-half its present numbers."

Any one reading these words will think that when His Excellency uttered them he was either relating a dream of his own, or was knowingly preferring unfounded charges against the National Congress. In the present backward condition of the people of India, it is impossible for the National Congress to desire the establishment of a democratic form of government in this country. Nor has the National Congress, as a matter of fact, ever passed any resolution advocating the establishment of a democratic government in India. What the National Congress wants is only a reconstitution of the Legislative Councils on a representative basis, half the number of members in a Council being natives elected by the natives themselves. Already there are natives in the Legislative Councils appointed by the Government itself. And if their presence in those Councils does not make the government a democracy, it is difficult to see how the bare introduction of the elective principle in place of nomination will make it such. It is important to bear in mind in this connection that the Congress itself proposes to give the Government a veto upon any resolution of a reconstituted Legislative Council. For this means that the Congress does not mean to subvert the Executive Government and set up an irresponsible democracy in its place.

Another demand of the Congress is that the budget should be laid before the Council every year, and not, as now, only when schemes of taxation have to be discussed. But Government does not probably like the idea of its budget being discussed every year.

Lord Dufferin has endeavoured to mislead the public by comparing a Legislative Council after the Congress's idea with the Parliament in England. The Parliament is both a governing and a legislative body; it makes laws, declares peace and war, votes money, &c. But a Legislative Council reconstituted on the Congress's plan will only legislate. It will not make peace or war or dismiss public officers. And it will be under the guidance of the Executive Government. Lord Dufferin says that all native statesmen of mark have told him that the Congress's scheme of a reconstituted Council is impracticable and unconstitutional in its nature. But surely Sir T. Madhava Rao and Dewan Raghunath Rao are statesmen of eminence, and Lord Dufferin knows that both Sir T. Madhava Rao and Dewan Raghunath Rao have accepted the proposal of the Congress regarding the reconstitution of the Legislative Councils.

Lord Dufferin does not know that the educated Indians who are carrying on political agitation are much respected by the great mass of people who have received no English education, and he is therefore unwilling to accept them as representatives of the latter. But everyone acquainted with Hindu society and its history knows that in this country the man of learning and the well-born man have been at all times accepted by the great mass of people as their leaders and representatives: witness the acknowledged and undisputed supremacy of the Brahmin as the man of learning and of the Kulin as the well-born man. Under the altered circumstances of the day, birth does not possess the prestige or power it once had. But learning or intellectual superiority has lost nothing of its historic prestige. One will be simply astonished to see the influence which a single pleader in a mofussil court possesses over masses of people, and the eagerness with which thousands of illiterate people come from long distances to hear an educated gentleman at a village meeting. And all this means that it is in the very nature of the Indian people to accept the man of learning among them as leader or representative. The Congress, which consists of educated Indians, is therefore a representative movement. It is also a fact that Local Self-Government, introduced only the other day, is considered by Government itself to be a success. But Local Self-Government is admittedly the government of men who are representatives of the people. And are not the men who constitute the Congress the very same who conduct Local Self-Government, or men whose relation to the great mass of people is not different from that of those who administer local and municipal affairs? Clearly, the Congress is a representative institution.

Lord Dufferin recognises the necessity of reorganising the police and separating the judicial and executive functions, but pleads want of funds. All that need be said on this point is that the ruler who exhausts his pecuniary resources in waging reckless warfare will never be in a position to introduce reforms in the administration.

The ignorance of the condition of the country shown by Lord Dufferin at the close of his administration is at once ludicrous and lamentable. It is owing to such ignorance on the part of the Indian Governors that the grievances of the people remain unredressed. It is therefore hoped that the National Congress and enlightened agitation will make it one of its chief objects to remove such ignorance from among the governing body.

43. The *Bangabási*, of the 8th December, praises Lord Dufferin for his clear and excellent speech at St. Andrew's Dinner. The writer agrees with His Lordship in thinking that a handful of men aspiring

Lord Dufferin's speech at St. Andrew's Dinner.
Lord Dufferin's speech at St. Andrew's Dinner.

ing to represent 250 millions of the people of India should not be trusted with that duty. The writer cannot allow these Anglicised Baboos to legislate for the Hindus, and entreats Government not to injure Hindu society by giving these Baboos a place in the Legislative Councils. It is a matter for congratulation that Lord Dufferin's keen intellect has penetrated through the designs of these Baboos. The Baboos are eager to possess the volunteering right, and are trying to have the control of public affairs transferred to them. But Government, it is certain, will never allow them to usurp such powers. Lord Dufferin's outspokenness has greatly pleased the writer. There is great truth in what His Excellency has said about the condition of the people, about sanitation, and about the chronic indebtedness of the poorer classes. But the writer does not agree with His Excellency in thinking that the work of social reform should be placed in the hands of the anglicised Baboos. The writer has no faith whatever in these Baboos, who are utterly worthless and thoroughly non-Hindu in conduct and principle. The writer has also no faith in the practical good sense of the Baboos, who, if they had been wise and practically disposed, would never have taken in hand the

BANGABÁSI,
Dec. 8th, 1888.

BANGARASU,
Dec. 8th, 1888.

impracticable work of the Congress. And he would therefore stoutly decline to place in their hands the important and difficult change of social reform.

44. The same paper thinks that there are two ways of removing the exchange difficulty. The first is the introduction of a bi-metallic currency in England,

and the second is the introduction of gold currency in India. But the first is more easy and feasible than the second. In a poor country like India, a gold currency will be attended with serious inconvenience. In England there is already a silver currency, and it is only necessary to remove from it the 20-rupee restriction, and to fix the prices of both gold and silver, in order to put an end to the currency difficulty. The absence of a silver currency is causing suffering not only among the poor in England, but also among the poor in all the mono-metallic countries of Europe. If England therefore takes the lead in the matter of introducing a bi-metallic currency, it seems very likely that all the other countries where the gold currency is causing popular misery will gladly follow her example. And the fact that England is the richest country in the world and has the chief control of the trade of the world makes it politically and economically certain that, if she adopts a double currency, other countries, however unwilling or indifferent, will be obliged to do the same thing.

BANGARASU.

45. The same paper gives hearty and loyal welcome to Lord Lansdowne, and expresses its fervent hope that it may be given to the writer to bid him farewell at the end of his Indian career with the same warmth and kindness of feeling with which he is now welcoming him.

SOM PRAKASH,
Dec. 10th, 1888.

46. The *Som Prakash*, of the 10th December, says that a perusal of Lord Lansdowne's speech in answer to the address presented to him by the Bombay Municipality has given it great satisfaction.

SOM PRAKASH.

47. The same paper says that the present manager of the Puttea Raj estate is an insolvent who was once dismissed from railway service on account of fraudulent conduct. The estate is sure to be ruined under his management. The Rani Hemantakumari is a mere child and wholly incompetent to manage her estate. Under the circumstances, Government and the Board of Revenue should look to the matter.

SOM PRAKASH.

48. The same paper has the following on Lord Dufferin's recent speech :—His Excellency Lord Dufferin has advised the Congressists to occupy themselves

with social questions. But in a country circumstanced like India, it is clearly impossible to follow such advice. Lord Dufferin should have known that the object of the Congress is to bring the wants of the people to the notice of Government, and that it cannot, therefore, without practically abandoning its distinctive function, concern itself with social questions. The statement comparing the Congress with the British Parliament, and condemning its action as calculated to spread sedition in the country, came with a very bad grace from the mouth of a politician of His Excellency's calibre and standing. His reproachful allusion to Mr. Hume in connection with the Congress movement was unworthy of him. It is apparent from this speech that it was he who induced Sir Auckland Colvin to write that anti-Congress letter.

It may be true, as His Excellency says, that the National Congress will never obtain the powers which the English Parliament wields. But is that a reason why the people of India should not unite to make their wants known to Government?

His Excellency's observations on the subject of the police administration are not in keeping with the fact of the Confidential Police Circular.

The speech speaks very favourably for Lord Dufferin's literary powers. But it will, in all probability, do much harm to the people of this country, against whom it may also prejudice the new Governor-General. It was perhaps mainly for the purpose of winning Lord Lansdowne over to his own peculiar views that Lord Dufferin made this speech on the eve of his departure from the country.

49. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 10th December, says that those who did not know Lord Dufferin before will be able to see him in his true character in his speech at St. Andrew's Dinner. Lord Dufferin is a clever diplomat, but he is a heartless man.

Lord Dufferin's speech at St. Andrew's dinner. 50. The *Navavibhākar Sādhārāni*, of the 10th December, says that Lord Dufferin's speech at St. Andrew's Dinner has revealed him completely. His

Lordship pronounced a benediction on the Congress when it was born, but as it grew in years and strength he began to look askance at it, like the whole official body. And he concealed up to his very last moment in this country his real feeling in regard to the Congress. His Excellency's opposition to the Congress, which aims principally at the reconstitution of the Legislative Councils on a representative basis, shows that his declaration in favour of the representative system in his Jubilee speech was an insincere declaration made with the object of deluding the people.

Speaking about the reorganisation of the Police Department, Lord Dufferin has remarked that the police is bad because native society is bad. But the fact that native officers serving in other departments are not bad men takes the point out of this statement. The real reason must be sought elsewhere. The police is bad because it has at its head such worthless men as its present English officers. His Excellency has also said that it could not be reasonably expected that he would be able, in the present financial condition of Government, to undertake such a costly reform as the reorganisation of the police. But it is not a little strange that Government, which finds money readily enough for carrying out its policy of fireworks, should go on pleading want of funds whenever it is asked to do any necessary work of reform. When necessary measures cannot be carried out for want of funds, should not Government deprive itself of such luxuries as the Simla exodus, and, where possible, substitute a cheap native agency for a costly European agency?

It is simply astonishing to hear a veteran statesman like Lord Dufferin say that the Congress should make social reform its chief business. If, as he has rightly observed, the administration of India is a very difficult work on account of the many races, languages and faiths existing in the country, surely the work of social reform by a body constituted like the Congress, in a country circumstanced like India, must be not simply difficult, but absolutely impossible.

It is also not a little surprising to find Lord Dufferin, a professed friend of the Mussulmans, declaring that the Home Government will not listen to any proposal for giving a military training to the Indians. Can any danger result from giving military training even to the Mussulmans? Lord Dufferin would have proved himself a real friend of the Mussulmans, as well as a far-sighted statesman, if he had appointed respectable Mussulmans to the higher offices in the army. Be his experience ever so large and his reputation ever so high, Lord Dufferin must be denied credit for elevated or far-sighted statesmanship if, after having witnessed the extraordinary loyalty and devotion of the common Indian sepoy on 7 rupees a month, he can apprehend danger from the appointment to the higher offices in the army of the scions of respectable Hindu families.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Dec. 10th, 1888.

*NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,*
Dec. 10th, 1888.

SILCHAR.
Dec. 3rd, 1888.

ASSAM PAPERS.

51. The *Silchar*, of the 3rd December, referring to the Viceroy's visit to Dacca, observes as follows:—It is most improper that His Excellency Lord Dufferin, after drawing 2½ lakhs of rupees a year as salary, and securing the title 'Marquis of Ava' as his reward for depriving a great, ancient kingdom of its liberty and wasting crores of rupees on unjust wars, should now take to touring through India, thus compelling the hopeless country to spend more money. What on earth is the reason of His Excellency's unsolicited visits to different places in the country? Perhaps His Excellency is bent on collecting 'fish' in view of his departure from the country. The people whom he visits seem unwilling to spend money for his reception. In Dacca, for instance, the educated people refused to subscribe for his reception until the Magistrate and the Commissioner compelled them to do so.

SILCHAR.

52. The same paper, in giving an abstract of the report on education in Assam, makes the following observations:—

Education in Assam.

The people of Assam should learn with shame that there are only two high class private schools in their province. Government is certainly doing much for the education of the province. Nevertheless its cost of education per head of students is only Rs. 12-11-1, not quite high considering the strength of the entire population. The necessity of establishing in Assam boarding-houses for students is very great. There is not in the whole province one good boarding-house. But the Government of Assam is totally indifferent in this matter. The Art School at Jorehat, the only one of its kind in the province, has been reduced to a miserable condition for want of funds. It is a matter for rejoicing, therefore, that the Chief Commissioner of Assam has promised to do his best to advance the cultivation of art in his province. And if he fulfils his promise his name will be remembered in Assam for ever.

SILCHAR.

53. The same paper objects to the proposal to make the Sylhet teachers Pathsala examiners in Cachar, on the ground that the course intended to be taken will deprive the teachers of Cachar of the remuneration which they justly expect to receive by being appointed examiners.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 15th December 1888.